



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Welcome to the Legislative Update for February 5, 2016

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep older Arizonans and advocates of aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight federal legislation or activities affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature.

Note: to get the most from this report, be sure to open the [links](#) throughout for the latest news and information. Thank you for your interest!

52nd Legislature, 2nd Regular Session

More than 1,170 bills have been posted to date, and the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is tracking legislation that has the potential to impact older Arizonans. Those bills can be found on the web report provided in the following link. **FULL List** click [HERE](#)

Tracking List Highlights

SB1196: tech correction; tax anticipation bonds **Striker: Silver Alert; Alzheimer's Disease** – Hearing in the Senate Water & Energy Committee on 2/8 at 2:00 p.m., Senate Room 3. Fact sheet [HERE](#)

S1363: insurance coverage; telemedicine - Hearing in Senate Financial Institutions Committee on 2/10 at 2:00 p.m., Room 109. Bill text [HERE](#)

SB1375: telephone solicitations - Hearing in the Senate Commerce & Workforce Development Committee on 2/8 at 1:45 p.m., Senate Room 1. Fact sheet [HERE](#)

SB1441: long-term insurance; rates; premium - Hearing in the Senate Financial Institutions on 2/10 at 2:00 p.m., Room 109. Bill text [HERE](#)

SB1443: health profession regulatory boards - Hearing in Senate Health & Human Services Committee on 2/10 at 2:00 p.m., Senate Room 1. Bill text [HERE](#)

SB1490: transportation funding; task force - Recent action: 2/2 referred to Senate Transportation Committee. Hearing in Senate Transportation 2/9 at 2:00 p.m., Senate Room 1. Fact

sheet [HERE](#)

SB1250: intergovernmental public transportation authority; taxation - Recent action: 2/3 from Senate Transportation Committee do pass. Senate Fact sheet (1/29) [HERE](#)

HB2099: developmental disabilities; terminology; settings - Recent action: 2/4 retained on the House Committee of the Whole calendar. House Summary 1/25/2016 Caucus Committee of the Whole [HERE](#)

HB2388: qualified disability expenses; eligible individuals - Hearing in the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday, 2/10 at 2:00 p.m. in House Room 1. House Summary [HERE](#)

HB2452: cash assistance; eligibility; children - Hearing: House Children & Family Affairs Committee 2/8 at 2:00 p.m., House Room 5. House Summary (2/4) [HERE](#)

HB2461: lifespan respite care; program termination - Recent action: 2/3 from the House Health Committee with do pass. Hearing in the House Rules Committee on 2/8 at 1:00 p.m., House Room 4. House Summary (2/2) [HERE](#)

HB2179: critical health information; emergency responders - Hearing in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on 2/2 at 2:00 p.m., House Room 1. House Summary (2/3) [HERE](#)

HB2238: insurance; identity theft group policies - Recent action: 2/4 passed House 47-10. Ready for Senate. House Summary (2/4) [HERE](#)

HB2329: appropriation; veterans' services; veterans' home - 2/4 from House Military Affairs and Public Safety Committee do pass. House Summary (2/4) [HERE](#)

HB2362: tech correction; AHCCCS; application process - Amendment #4058 [HERE](#) (Nurse licensure compact Hearing scheduled in House Rules Committee on Monday, 2/8 at 1:00 p.m., House Room 4.

HB2394: power of attorney; notice - Bill text [HERE](#). Recent action: 2/4 referred to House Judiciary Committee.

HB2502: medical licensure compact - Recent action: from House Health Committee do pass. Hearing scheduled Monday, 2/8 at 1:00 p.m., House Room 4. House Summary (2/3) [HERE](#)

Schedules

[House Weekly Schedule](#)

Senate 2016 Committee Schedule List [HERE](#)

Deadlines

Senate [2016 Session Timeline](#)

House Important Deadlines

Monday, (2/8/2016) is the last day for House bills to be introduced without special permission. Friday, 2/19 is the last day to hear House bills in House Committees and Senate bills in Senate Committees.

Members of the House of Representatives and Senate are listed on the Arizona State Legislature website at the following links.

Members of the [House](#)

Members of the [Senate](#)

[Standing Committees](#) - this link provides you with a list of the committee members and information on any posted meeting agendas or minutes for that committee.

You can watch Live Proceedings at:

http://azleg.granicus.com/Mediaplayer.php?publish_id=5.

If you wish to speak, you must sign in at any of the kiosks located outside the committee rooms located on the first floor of either the House or the Senate (1700 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007) the first time you use the Request to Speak. After that you will be able to sign in from home and register a position on any bill shown on an Agenda (whether or not you wish to speak).

Arizona State Legislature ALIS Today calendar [HERE](#)

Summary of Action

As of day 26, 1,173 bills have been posted; none have passed or been signed; 100 memorials or resolutions have been posted; none have passed. Note: some of these bills may be of interest to older Arizonans and will be tracked by the Council on Aging and appear on the Legislative Update web report. Please be advised that the presence of a bill on a tracking list **does not** represent support or opposition by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. It **does** mean that the topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

FULL List click [HERE](#)

Note: the **FULL List** web report provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information on all of the bills being tracked by the Council and is available and updated on an ongoing basis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This list will continue to be edited and updated throughout the session. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by **Arizona Capitol Times**.

If you know of someone who would appreciate having access to the tracking list of legislation, encourage them to subscribe to the *Legislative Update* by sending a request to gaca@az.gov.

Fiscal News

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee/JLBC Appropriations Hearing Presentations (2/2/16 found [HERE](#)).

Share your thoughts!

If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 in Phoenix; 520-628-6580 in Tucson and in-state toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or
- **Legislators** from your area. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature** website and looking for: [How Do I Find or Contact my Legislators?](#)

Not sure about your congressional or legislative district? Maps can be found on the Arizona State Legislature website linked [here](#).

Other resources on the www.azleg.gov website -

Need to learn more about the legislative process? See [Arizona Bill](#) or [Bill to Law](#).

Find and review bill text [HERE](#).

Learn about the budget process [HERE](#).

Research the State Constitution [HERE](#).

Learn more at Frequently Asked Questions linked [HERE](#).

FEDERAL OVERVIEW

UPDATES

H.R.677

American Heroes COLA Act of 2015

Introduced on 2/3/2015 by Representative Ralph Lee Abraham (LA-5)

Requires that, whenever there is an increase in benefit amounts payable under title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) of the Social Security Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall increase by the same percentage the amounts payable as veterans' disability compensation, additional compensation for dependents, the clothing allowance for certain disabled adult children, and dependency and indemnity compensation for surviving spouses and children.

On 2/1/2016, placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 308

H.R.3700

Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2015

Introduced on 10/7/2015 by Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO-3)

To provide housing opportunities in the United States through modernization of various housing programs, and for other purposes.

This bill amends the United States Housing Act of 1937 to:

- authorize a public housing agency (PHA) to make section 8 low-income rental assistance (voucher) payments to a dwelling unit after an inspection reveals non-life-threatening conditions, but suspend the payments after 30 days if the conditions are not corrected; and
- prescribe further requirements for enforcement of housing quality standards.

The bill also revises requirements to vary the frequency of otherwise annual reviews of family income for public housing and section 8 programs, depending on certain decreases or increases in annual adjusted income.

Text [HERE](#)

2/2/2016 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

H.R.4362

State Health Flexibility Act of 2016

Introduced on 1/11/2016 by Representative Todd Rokita (IN-4)

To amend Social Security Act to replace the Medicaid program and the Children's Health Insurance program with a block grant to the States, and for other purposes.

Text [HERE](#)

On 1/19/2016 Referred to the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.

Other Legislation:

H.R.4293

Affordable Retirement Advice Protection Act

Introduced on 12/28/2015 by Representative David P. Roe (TN-1)

To amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure that retirement investors receive advice in their best interest, and for other purposes.

Text [HERE](#)

On 2/2/2016, Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 22 – 14.

S.2484

A bill to amend titles XVIII and XI of the Social Security Act to promote cost savings and quality care under the Medicare program through the use of telehealth and remote patient monitoring services, and for other purposes.

Introduced on 2/2/2016 by Senator Brian Schatz (HI)

Share your opinions with members of Congress!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your Representatives or Senators by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**.

Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

You can contact the White House at this [link](#).

ALSO: A compilation of contact information is provided at:

<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

NEWS& RESOURCES

From **Kaiser Health News**

KHN's Aging coverage at: <http://khn.org/topics/aging/>.

From the **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities/NASUAD**

Friday Updates, February 5, 2016

Deadline Extended for Comments on Draft APS Consensus Guidelines

There are no federal guidelines for Adult Protect Service Agencies to follow, rather each state adheres to their own guidelines. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) seeks to create national guidelines, rooted in strong federal leadership, to create a set of principles and expectations to increase consistency in APS agencies across the country. The ACL formed a set of draft guidelines using the most current research on what works in APS and other similar systems in the United States. The ACL is now looking for feedback from the public in order to refine and finalize the draft guidelines. Their goal is to facilitate the creation of the guidelines to ensure they are consensus-informed and field driven. The deadline for comments has been extended to **Monday, February 8, 2016**.

[Click here](#) to submit a comment.

Informational Bulletin On Opioid Drug Misuse, Abuse, and Addiction

On Tuesday, the CMS Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) released an informational bulletin with information for states about possible health risks when taking prescription opioid pain medication. An epidemic of opioid misuse, abuse, and addiction, exists in America and is a major threat to public health. The bulletin includes research about deaths caused by opioids, pharmacy benefit management strategies for mitigating prescription drug abuse, and best practices for states to address this issue.

[Click here](#) to view the informational bulletin.

Fake Social Security Email Scam

The Social Security Administration and the Federal Trade Commission are alerting the American public about an online scam that has the email subject of "Get Protected". This email appears to be from the SSA and speaks about new features that monitor unauthorized use of one's Social Security number. SSA advises not to open to the link or any of the attachments. If you should receive this email, report it to spam@uce.gov. On Guard Online offers information about other common online scams to keep you protected.

[Click here](#) to view more information.

From the **National Council on Aging/NCOA**

United States Senate Committee on Finance *Bipartisan Chronic Care Working Group Policy Options Document* [HERE](#)

NCOA comments to Senate Chronic Care Working Group [HERE](#)

Helping Seniors Avoid Scams & Manage Debt – February 18 from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Register [HERE](#)

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Alzheimer's website: <http://www.alzheimers.gov/>

National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease updated information can be found at:
<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>.

In case you missed it last time...

From the **National Alzheimer's Project Act** - "Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Innovative Dementia Models of Care: Patient-Centered Alternatives to Institutional Extended Care."

http://www.va.gov/GERIATRICS/docs/VHA_Innovative_Dementia_Models_of_Care_Sept_2015.pdf.

The report describes a number of innovative programs developed and implemented at U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Centers, along with some initial results and lessons learned from the projects.

From the **ARCH (Access to Respite Care and Help) National Respite Network and Resource Center**

Federal Funding and Support Opportunities for Respite: Building Blocks for Lifespan Respite System November 2015 linked [HERE](#)

INFORMATION& RESOURCES:

Family Caregiver Day at the Capitol

February 25, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Arizona Capitol Museum, 1700 W. Washington Street, Phoenix AZ

Must register by February 23, 2016 online at <http://azfamilycaregiverday.eventbrite.com> or Call Jantell Cansler at 602-910-8155 or Email: AZCaregiverCoalition@gmail.com

Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging/AZ4A conference

May 19-20, 2016, High Country Conference Center, 201 West Butler Avenue, Flagstaff AZ

For more information and register online at: www.regonline.com/az4aagingsummit

If you're interested

Past issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/qaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging summary of input received during the 2015 Senior Action Day cycle is posted [HERE](#).

You can help circulate resource information. If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description and a link or pdf

document to: gaca@az.gov. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including fundraising or marketing materials.

Enjoy your weekend!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging



If you wish to be REMOVED from or know someone who would like to be ADDED to the Update, please send an email to: gaca@az.gov and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

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